

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 05920 220603Z

10

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W

----- 120923

R 220400Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6221

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 5920

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CASC, JA, SW, VS

SUBJECT: ROK NATIONALS IN SAIGON

REF: (A) STATE 273671 (B) SEOUL 8967

1. AFTER CONSULTING WITH ROK EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM, EMBOFF
RAISED QUESTION OF ROK CITIZENS AND DIPLOMATS DETAINED IN
SAIGON WITH ANDERS SANDSTROM, ACTING CHIEF OF FIRST
DIVISION (RESPONSIBLE FOR ASIAN COMMUNIST AFFAIRS).
DRAWING ON REF A., WE CITED FACT THAT GOS HAS CONSIDERABLE
INFLUENCE IN VIETNAM DUE TO ITS LONG PERIOD OF
COOPERATION WITH HANOI GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING LARGE AID
PROJECTS), EMPHASIZED HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF
DETENTION, AND POINTED OUT SIGNIFICANCE FOR ALL NATIONS
WITH DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN VIETNAM OF IMPRISONMENT
OF ROK DIPLOMATS.

2. SANDSTROM, WHO IS NEW TO AREA, TOOK NOTES AND SAID HE
WOULD REPORT OUR APPROACH PROMPTLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER.
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HOWEVER, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SANDSTROM SAID IT WOULD

BE "DIFFICULT AND DELICATE" FOR GOS TO APPROACH HANOI IN BEHALF OF ROK NATIONALS. WHILE HE WOULD NOT CATEGORICALLY RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT GOS WOULD AGREE TO TAKE MATTER UP WITH VIETNAMESE, HE SAID HE COULD NOT BE VERY ENCOURAGING, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ROK WOULD PURSUE EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF ITS CITIZENS IN OTHER CHANNELS AS WELL. AT END OF MEETING, WE AGAIN STRESSED HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF PROBLEM, AND EXPRESSED OUR CONFIDENCE THAT GOS, WITH ITS LONG TRADITION OF ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WOULD NOT FAIL TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THIS REQUEST.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT SWEDEN WILL, IN FACT, RESPOND FAVORABLY TO OUR REQUEST. WE BELIEVE THERE IS ONLY OUTSIDE CHANCE THAT GOS WILL OVERCOME ITS DISINCLINATION TO OFFEND ITS HANOI FRIENDS AND STAND UP FOR THE PRINCIPLES IMPLICIT IN THE PLIGHT OF FOREIGNERS (INCLUDING ROK CITIZENS AND DIPLOMATS) DETAINED IN VIETNAM. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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06 JUL 2006

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